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REPORT

## INFORMATION REPORT

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1. There are four types of collectives in Yugoslavia. the first three types are only temporary, and that their purpose is to prepare the peasants for the fourth type.
2. The following attributes are characteristic of the third type of collective:
  - a. The collective members bring to the collective all of their land, farm implements, and cattle for common use in cultivation. The land, implements, and cattle are temporarily owned by the collective.
  - b. The collective members retain ownership only of their homes, small plots of land around their homes and a few animals. A family may withhold from the collective ten decarees of land, six sheep, one cow, and one horse.
  - c. All able-bodied working members are divided into working brigades. The brigades work under the direction of a collective board which is elected by the collective members.
  - d. The working members of the collective are paid by the collective according to the number of days that they have worked. The pay consists of grain and sums of cash and bonds. The maximum amount of grain that a member may receive from the collective is limited by the Federal Government. The collective accounts are balanced at the end of each year.
  - e. Each collective has a "social fund" for the assistance of the children and people unable to work. This fund credits the children and people unable to work with a number of working days (in amounts established by law) which enables them to get grain and food, and to share in the profits of the collective.
  - f. In principle, the members have the right to request to leave the collective after three years, and they have the right to take back their land, farm implements, and cattle.
3. At the beginning of 1951 the 42 villages and three hamlets of Resan

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had collectives, compulsorily established, of the third type. In early 1951 the villages of Assamati, Pretor, Raice and Kurbinovo combined into one collective in Assamati. Also in early 1951, following an order of the Macedonian Minister of Interior, Cvetko Uzunovski, the villages of Pokrevenik Community combined their collectives into one collective in Pokrevenik. The purpose of the union of collectives is to prepare the peasants of those villages for the transformation of their third-type collectives into fourth-type collectives.

4. At the end of September 1951, following the merger of the collectives, Resan district had 35 collectives. Among these collectives there was the following equipment:
  - a. One 120-horsepower Ansaldo tractor which was owned by the collective in Carev Dvor.
  - b. Two sowing machines which were owned by the collectives in the villages of Evla and Grncari.
  - c. Six threshing machines which were owned by the collectives in Carev Dvor, Evla, Drmeni, Sopotsko, Grncari and Podmocane.
  - d. The collectives in Carev Dvor, Dono Dupeni, Krani, Assamati, Pokrevenik Evla, and Bolno each had one three-ton truck, and the collectives in Ljubovine and Resan had two three-ton trucks each.
5. The collective members in Resan district were allowed to own the following:
  - a. Five ares of arable land per family member, but a maximum of 40 ares per family. A family might receive four ares of land per family member plus 16 fruit trees, but a family was allowed a maximum of 32 ares of land and 16 fruit trees. A family might be allowed three ares of arable land plus 50 grapevines per member, but the family was allowed a total of only 24 ares of land and 500 grapevines.
  - b. One cow per family.
  - c. One sheep per member, but a maximum of six for a family.
  - d. One horse or donkey per family.
6. The District Commissioner of Interior in Resan set the following limits on the quantities of grain which a collective member could receive:
  - a. Children - 160 kilograms per year.
  - b. Old and disabled persons - 210 kilograms per year.
  - c. Working members - 270 kilograms per year.

The collective boards could establish amounts of grain that would be allotted to collective members, but the allotment they selected had to be within the above limits.
7. The District Commissioner of Interior also set the following limits on the number of working days that could be granted to children and old and disabled people:
  - a. Children under one year of age - 25 working days per year per child. (sic).
  - b. Children from 1 to 7 - 50 working days per year per child.
  - c. Children from 7 to 15 - 65 working days per year per child.
  - d. Old and disabled people - 80 working days per year.

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As in the grain allotments, the collective boards set the exact number of days that would be granted each child and non-working person, but within the limits established by the Commissioner of Interior.

8. After the harvest and the grain necessary for the sowing of the next year's crop has been withheld, the remaining grain is at the disposal of the collective for distribution. To determine the quantity of grain which would be allotted to each member, the total quantity of grain was divided by the total number of working days of all collective members plus the working days allotted to children and non-working members. The resulting figure multiplied by the working days of each member determined the quantity of grain that each person would receive. The allotment had to be within the limits mentioned in paragraph 6, and any surplus had to be sold to the Government. If the grain crop is inadequate, the collective has the right to buy grain from the Government with currency obtained from the sale of its other products.
9. At the end of each year the net profit is divided by the total number of working days of all the members and the amount to be paid to each member is computed. Prior to October 1951 the profit consisted of cash and bonds which had come into the possession of the collective through sales of collective products to the Government. Since October 1951, when rationed items and government bonds were abolished, the collectives have to sell their products at low prices set by the Government, and they have to buy their consumers goods on the free market.
10. All collective sales were charged with a six-percent government tax and a three-percent tax for the Government Enterprise for Mechanization and Investment in Agriculture. The collective members had to pay the government tax on their income from their small plots of land and on any other income that they had.
11. On 15 February 1949, the collective was established in Ezereni and the peasants were forced to join it. The peasants had enough food to cover their needs until the harvest in July 1950. The 1950 crop was sufficient only to cover their needs until March 1951. The collective was forced to make the following purchases of grain from the Government: March 1951 - 1,000 kilograms; April - 3,000 kilograms; May - 4,100 kilograms; June - 1,500 kilograms. The 1951 harvest in Ezereni was 45,000 kilograms of grain and 10,000 kilograms of corn. After 15,000 kilograms of grain has been withdrawn for next year's sowing, the remaining 30,000 kilograms will not be sufficient to meet the needs of the 312 residents of Ezereni through January 1952.
12. In 1948, before the establishment of the collective, the yield was 160 kilograms of wheat per decare and 220 kilograms of corn per decare. In 1951 the yield was 80 kilograms of wheat and 100 kilograms of corn. In 1951 the peasants in Ezereni and Podmocene had a yield of 200 kilograms of corn per decare on the plots that they owned privately.
13. Because of their poverty and poor treatment by the authorities, and because they have not been permitted to withdraw from the collective after three years, the peasants have resorted to sabotage. The sabotage was not organized, but it is widespread. Sabotage was performed in the following manner:
  - a. Intentional selection of poor land for the cultivation of a particular crop.
  - b. Failure to sow adequately; sometimes the grain was stolen and sometimes it was thrown away by the peasants.
  - c. Poor timing in performance of farming tasks.

The peasants believe that through sabotage, and the resulting low agricultural production, they can force the regime to give up land collectivization.

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14. On 18 August 1951 all collective chairmen, the chairmen and secretaries of the communities, and the political secretaries of the local Communist Party cells were ordered to attend a meeting in Resan. The meeting was called by Vasil Dimovski, the manager of the Resan branch of the Government Enterprise for Mechanization and Investment in Agriculture. The meeting was also attended by the political and organization secretaries of the District Communist Party Committee. Dimovski stated that the disastrous results in agricultural production had compelled the Government to issue a new decree concerning collectives. The following were included in the new decree:
- a. The collective brigades would be reduced to a maximum of 20 to 22 members so the collective management could exercise individual control over the working members.
  - b. The collective chairmen were relieved of all collective management duties except convoking and presiding over the meetings of the collective board.
  - c. The post of collective manager was created. The collective manager would be in charge of all collective affairs, and he would be elected by the collective board under the supervision of the District Commissioner of Agriculture.
  - d. A new system of collective land cultivation called "Stpanska Smetka" would be established. The decree described the following as the characteristics of this system:
    - (1) The collective land will be divided into lots. The lots will be given for common cultivation to the brigades of 20 to 22 members. All collective farm implements and a number of cattle necessary for cultivation would be divided among the brigades.
    - (2) The collective boards will do the planning, and they will determine what crops will be planted on each lot. They will also determine what yield is expected from each lot.
    - (3) The brigades will have to sell all of their products to the collective, which will pay for them after the products have been sold.
    - (4) Each brigade will have an account with the collective, and the members of each brigade will regulate their accounts among themselves.
15. In a few days following the speech of Dimovski the collectives in Resan district were ordered to bring into effect the new changes. Most of this was accomplished by 1 October 1951. The collectives were also ordered to establish commissions consisting of the chairman and administrator of the community, the chairman and manager of the collective, and the political secretary of the local Communist Party cell. The commissions were to perform the following duties:
- a. Divide the collective land into lots;
  - b. Divide the lots of land among the brigades; and
  - c. Divide the farm implements and cattle among the brigades.
16. [ ] the purpose of the decree is to take the management of the collectives away from the local people and put it in the hands of the manager, who will be more dependent upon the district authorities than the collective board. This, coupled with increased control over working members, the authorities hope will result in increased production.

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